

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING U.S. VETERAN
SERAFINA L. DE LOS SANTOS

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in honor of military veteran and retiree Ms. Serafina L. De Los Santos for her years of service to the United States and our San Antonio community. Ms. De Los Santos graciously served on my 2019 Military Service Academy Nomination Board and played an essential role in helping local students begin their military careers.

A native of Brownsville, Texas, Ms. De Los Santos enlisted in the Air Force in 1977 and served until 1982.

In 1986, she graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and joined the Army as an Officer.

In 1996, Ms. De Los Santos earned a Master of Science in Management/Logistics Management at the Florida Institute of Technology and during that same year completed a Logistics Executive Development Course in Fort Lee, Virginia. In 1999, she attended the Command and General Staff College in Leavenworth, Kansas.

In 2004, Ms. De Los Santos began her civil service career at the Department of the Army Civilian as the Senior Logistics Officer for the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade in Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Four years later, in 2008, Ms. De Los Santos served as the Plans Officer and then as the Executive Officer for Fort Sam Houston Army Garrison, working on the Joint Base San Antonio transformation and implementation.

In October 2010, Ms. De Los Santos became a Department of the Air Force Civilian as part of the Joint Base-San Antonio transformation. She served as Deputy for Installation Support of the 502nd Mission Support Group, Joint Base-San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston.

Ms. De Los Santos currently serves as the Executive Director for the 502nd Force Support Group (FSG) at Joint Base San Antonio. FSG includes JBSA-Randolph, JBSA-Lackland, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, and JBSA-Camp Bullis.

Ms. De Los Santos oversees JBSA's Community Partnership for Transitioning Service Members, Military Spouses and Family Programs. She also works as the Chair of the Workforce and Transition Alliance.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Serafina De Los Santos for her past and present contributions to our Nation and community. Her experience and commitment to civil service have helped usher in the next generation of military leaders. May we look to her leadership as the quintessence of true patriotism. I wish her continued success.

AWARDING STAFF SERGEANT
JOHNNY KIRK A CONGRESSIONAL
VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I am honored and privileged to award Staff Sergeant Johnny Kirk with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His service and sacrifice through the United States Air Force exemplify his national pride and embodiment as a role-model citizen to serve the country he loves. Staff Sergeant Kirk is truly an ideal candidate to receive the Congressional Veteran Commendation.

Staff Sergeant Kirk served in the Vietnam War as a weapons specialist where he loaded ammunition and rockets onto OV-10s. He also performed as a spotter in the OV-10s, directing artillery fire and close air support needs. He served a total of fifteen months in Vietnam including twelve months with no leave.

Staff Sergeant Kirk's tour of duty was unexpectedly extended an extra three months. Yet, he maintained his quality of service as a patriot without complaint. To express the sacrifice made, Staff Sergeant Kirk's tour in Vietnam caused him to be classified as a disabled veteran due to Agent Orange exposure.

After discharge, Staff Sergeant Kirk became a CPS investigator and served many years as a CPS Investigative Supervisor. His work in training other investigators has affected every law enforcement agency in Grayson County. In addition, he has taught Texas Family Code and investigation classes at the Grayson County Police Academy.

After retiring from the CPS Investigative Agency after 26 years, Staff Sergeant Kirk has become an ordained Baptist Minister and continues to teach Sexual Assault Prevention classes to the public.

I am beyond honored to have Staff Sergeant Kirk in Texas' 4th Congressional District and am privileged to award such a distinguished citizen for his sacrifices.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF
NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Neighborhood Ministries, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

Founded in 1982 by Kit Danley, who remains President of the organization today, Neighborhood Ministries has continuously aided the Phoenix community from the day it opened. The organization has found success in broadening its reach through four crucial programs. Those programs are Neighbors at

Work, Neighborhood Family Services, Neighborhood Spiritual Development, and Education for Life. These programs focus on at-risk youth and young adults in obtaining employment, providing families with the basic needs of life, creating opportunities for people to explore their faith and spirituality, and education assistance in pursuit of providing an educational and mentoring support system.

Neighborhood Ministries through their core values of Incarnational Love, Leadership Development, Work of Justice, Community, and many others has been able to effect "whole generations of families [that] have forever been changed by being shown a way out of the cycle of poverty that grips most urban communities," in its 40 years of existence.

I would like to again congratulate Neighborhood Ministries on 40 years of faith and service.

CELEBRATING CECILIA "MAMA
CHILA" DELGADO

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the exemplary life of Cecilia "Mama Chila" Delgado, who celebrated her 100th birthday on November 16, 2022. Born in the small town of Cuernavaca, Guanajuato, Mexico, Cecilia Delgado has lived 100 years with honor, integrity, respect and grace, while still residing in her own home in Anaheim, California.

The oldest of seven siblings, her parents, Pedro and Josefa Delgado, an immigrant farmer-working couple who were seeking a better life for their family, brought Cecilia to the United States when she was age 2 months. As a young girl, she entered public school and finished at Orange High School. Cecilia embraced her education by doing well in school, playing sports, and learning how to play the violin, guitar and mandolin. She still loves and continues to play her mandolin.

During the Great Depression, her family returned to Mexico to live. As an 18-year-old teen, Cecilia found a new life in a new country. She married Pablo Bravo and had five children. Unfortunately, her husband perished in a tragic work-related accident that left her as a 32-year-old widow.

With five young children, ranging in age from 1- to 10-years-old, Cecilia made a difficult decision to return to Orange County, California, where she had grown up and where she knew she could find employment to provide for her family. Being bilingual and biliterate, and extremely hard working, she immediately landed a job as a stitcher at Van's, a tennis shoe factory in Anaheim. She supplemented her income cleaning houses. By working two jobs, she provided her children economic stability, coupled with love and comfort, for the duration of their lives.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.